

“Joy in the Midst of Temptation”
Philippians 2:12-30

Principle: We are to work out what God is working in.

Principle: You serve whom you fear.

Principle: Regeneration is being transformed, changed from the inside out.

Four types of complainers:

1. The whiner

“Have I been wasting my time? Why take all the trouble to be pure? All I get out of it is trouble and woe.” Psalms 73:13

2. The martyr

“Moses said to the Lord, “Why pick on me, to give the burden of a people like this? I can’t carry this nation by myself! If you’re going to treat me like this, please kill me right now – it will be a kindness! Let me out of this impossible situation!” Numbers 11:11-15

3. The cynic

“Life is useless. You spend your life working and what do you have to show for it? The world stays just the same...what has been done before will be done again.” Ecclesiastes 1:2-4, 9

4. The perfectionist

“Better to live out in the desert than with a nagging, complaining wife.” Proverbs 21:19

Four characteristics of non-complainers:

1. They accept responsibility for their own lives.
2. They have an attitude of gratitude.
3. They look for God’s hand in everything.
4. They speak positively.

“You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food.” Hebrews 5:12

Four questions:

1. What is Jesus doing in you?
2. What grumbling and questioning (arguing) do you need to repent of?

“A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance.” Proverbs 28:13

3. What do you need to work out?
4. Who needs you to be like Timothy or Ephaphroditus?